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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 6,408,979 :
Issue Date: June 25, 2002 :
Application No. 09/525,365 :
Filed: March 15, 2000 :
Attorney Docket No. 2-5127-013 :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the renewed petition filed November 3, 2010, to accept the unavoidably delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.378(b) is **GRANTED**.

The above identified patent issued June 25, 2002. The first (3 ½ year) maintenance fee was due June 25, 2006, and could have been paid from June 25, 2005, through December 25, 2005, or with a surcharge during the period from December 25, 2005 through June 25, 2006. Accordingly, the patent expired at midnight June 25, 2006, for failure to timely submit the first maintenance fee. Additionally, petitioner requests acceptance of the second (7½ year) maintenance fee.

Petitioner has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Director that the delay in timely paying the maintenance fee was unavoidable.

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to April M. Wise at (571) 272-1642.

Anthony Knight
Director
Office of Petitions